



Fact Sheet: 2008 Filing Season ReadyReturn

□ **What is ReadyReturn?**

- ReadyReturn is the Franchise Tax Board's free service that provides taxpayers with a completed return for their final approval and submission to us.
- ReadyReturn is designed for taxpayers with simple tax returns.
- Taxpayers may accept the return as completed, make changes, or choose to use another filing method.
- FTB uses the information we already have, such as W-2 information, address, and filing status to complete the return.

□ **How do taxpayers find out if FTB completed a ReadyReturn for them?**

- Visit our website at ftb.ca.gov or call 800.338.0505.

□ **Who is eligible to use ReadyReturn?**

- Taxpayers may qualify for ReadyReturn if they had only one employer in 2007 and filed a 2006 California resident return with:
 - Filing status of single.
 - No dependents and not claimed as a dependent.
 - Standard deduction.
 - No special credits.
 - Income from wages only.

□ **What are the benefits of ReadyReturn?**

- ReadyReturn is a free, easy, direct-to-government filing option that gives taxpayers the option to file electronically or on paper. ReadyReturn is based on a simple premise: we can use the information that we already have, such as W-2 information, to provide taxpayers with a completed return for their final approval and submission to us. We do most of the work, so taxpayers benefit.

❑ **What do taxpayers think of ReadyReturn? (Comments are from taxpayer surveys.)**

“This is a great solution for people like me who don’t have anything other than income. Plus it makes so much sense and it’s free. If it would have cost money I would have mailed my return in. That’s what I had to do for my Federal return. Great Product Management with Ready Return, youve done an excellent job meeting the end user’s needs.”

“It made my simple tax return a COMPLETE no-brainer.”

“This is great and easy to use.”

“Wonderful. Wish the Feds would make it this easy.”

❑ **What if taxpayers don’t qualify for ReadyReturn?**

- Taxpayers may use CalFile, our user-friendly, free, online filing program. CalFile is available to the more than 6 million taxpayers who file forms 540 2EZ or the 540A. It allows taxpayers to e-file their returns quickly and securely, direct to FTB. Generally, CalFile is available to taxpayers who:
 - File with any filing status.
 - Were a California resident for the entire year.
 - Are filing an original tax return for current tax year.
 - Can claim up to 5 dependents.
 - Have a Federal AGI up to:
 - \$155,416 for single and married/registered domestic partnership (RDP) filing separately.
 - \$233,129 for head of household.
 - \$310,837 for married/RDP filing jointly and qualifying widow(er).
- CalFile also accepts itemized deductions and some tax credits.

❑ **Volume of ReadyReturns received by process year (PY)**

- PY 2005 – 11,620
- PY 2006 – 10,580
- PY 2007 – ReadyReturn was not available this process year
- PY 2008 – 30,000 (projection)

❑ **Contact**

- Franchise Tax Board
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